



Current Information on the Wilcox Oil Superfund Site

Bristow, Oklahoma

March, 2015

This fact sheet will tell you about:

- **Current Actions at the Wilcox Superfund Site (Site)**
- **The National Priorities List**
- **The Superfund Process**
- **Site History**
- **Contacts and More Information**

Current Actions at the Site

In July 2014, EPA installed a cap on the drinking water well near the Church on the Site. The EPA also installed 690 linear feet of fencing and signage in a residential property on Site. Currently ODEQ is performing quarterly testing of drinking water wells for residents in and around this Site and nothing was found above the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs).

In November 2014, ODEQ informed EPA that there was a potential elevated level of lead in the blood of a child living on the Site. The EPA developed a sampling plan and sampled the property in December 2014.

The EPA Enforcement Section is currently identifying and pursuing viable potentially responsible parties (PRP).

The National Priorities List

The National Priorities List, or NPL, is a list of top priority sites to be addressed through the Superfund Law. Initially, 406 sites were

listed when established in 1983, currently more than 1,685 sites are identified.

The EPA and the states continue to evaluate potential future sites. With the current rulemaking announcement, the EPA added the Site to the NPL on December 12, 2013.

The Superfund Process

The Superfund cleanup process begins with site discovery or notification to EPA of possible releases of hazardous substances. Sites are discovered by various parties, including citizens, State agencies, and EPA Regional offices. EPA then evaluates the potential for a release of hazardous substances from the site through a step-by-step process that includes site assessment, site inspections, and a ranking process to determine whether the site should be added to the NPL. Once on this list, EPA determines the best way to clean up the site to protect human health and the environment. Opportunities for community involvement occur throughout the process.

Site History

The Wilcox Oil Company (Wilcox) Site includes the inactive and abandoned Lorraine and Wilcox Oil refineries located in Bristow, Creek County, Oklahoma. The property was utilized as a crude oil refinery by these refineries from the mid-1920s to the mid-1960s. The two refineries comprise 125 acres.

The remnants of former oil refining operations include two refinery processing areas and product storage tank areas. An active railroad divides the two former processing areas and

Deleted: Since the sampling event, additional fencing was installed on the property to avoid any additional accidental exposure of any additional contaminants.

product storage areas. Most of the refinery structures and tanks have been removed or are in ruins. The product storage tank areas cover approximately 80 acres and have a number of refinery waste source areas of concern. These refinery waste source areas of concern include a backfilled oily waste pond, a breached settling pond, a backfilled oily waste pit, a former pond apparently backfilled with solid refinery waste, and a number of former tank storage areas. The contaminants of concern are lead and organic compounds (Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH)). These contaminants of concern are found in soil, sediment, and waste material.

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*For additional information please consult the EPA Region 6 website:
<http://www.epa.gov/region6/6sf/6sf-ok.htm>*

*All inquiries from the news media should be directed to: EPA Region 6 Press Office
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Contacts and More Information

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Deleted: Wilcox Oil Company is an inactive and abandoned oil refinery located in Bristow, Creek County, Oklahoma. The site consists of contaminated areas and surface water bodies due to releases from the former Lorraine and Wilcox Refineries. These former refineries operated from the mid-1920s to the early 1960s. The area of the former refineries is approximately 125 acres. The location of the releases from the two refineries is considered to be a single site composed of a commingled release from the combined refinery operations. The area of the former refineries is approximately 125 acres.¶ Major operational areas include the former Site, Lorraine Refinery, and the product storage area (tank farm). Sources of contamination include contaminated soil, cooling ponds, and numerous tank bottoms. Contaminants of concern include metals and organic compounds in the former storage tank areas, surface soils, surface impoundment and sediments.¶

Moved (insertion) [1]

Moved up [1]: The area of the former refineries is approximately 125 acres.

